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**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No. 101.0053-01000  
Customer No. 22882

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	Confirmation No. 4993
Gary Karlin Michelson	)	
Serial No.: 10/047,545	)	Group Art Unit: 3772
Filed: January 16, 2002	)	Examiner: Michael Brown
For: THREADED FRUSTO-CONICAL	)	
INTERBODY SPINAL FUSION	)	
IMPLANTS	)	

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in the above-referenced application.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that it was considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art." If the Examiner applies the document as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicant determines that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-3726.

Respectfully submitted,

MARTIN & FERRARO, LLP

Date: January 15, 2007

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OMB 0651-0031

Substitute for FORM PTO-1449		Attorney Docket Number 101.0053-01000		Customer No. 22882	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION		Applicant Gary K. Michelson		Application Number 10/047,545	
(Use several sheets if necessary) Sheet 1 of 1		Filing Date January 16, 2002		Group Art Unit 3772	Examiner M. Brown
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,133,755	7/1992	Brekke		
	5,397,359	3/1995	Mittelmeier et al.		
	5,800,547	9/1998	Schafer et al.		
	6,118,043	9/2000	Nies et al.		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)					
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED				
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.					